CHARLTON COMICS GROUP

# OUTLAWS

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# OUTLAWS of the WEST

AIM FOR THE SHOULDER... MUSTN'T KILL HIM!

GIORDANO AND MASIROSERIO —

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# TRAIL AT BULLETPROOF

FOUR MEN WERE IN THAT CARD GAME IN BULLETPROOF WHEN THE STRANGER RODE IN ...ORTEGA, SLIP MEANY, LUPE MEDERA, AND HARRY 'HACK' HAYES! AND, ON THE FOUR, THERE WAS A TOTAL OF $23,000 REWARD! BULLETPROOF, ON THE EDGE OF THE BADLANDS HAD ONLY ONE LAW.... THE LAW OF THE GUN!

SOMEBODY STACKED THAT DECK! AN' I'M GONNA FIND OUT WHO AN'....

BE CALM, MY FRIEND! THERE WILL NO LONGER BE AN ORTEGA GANG EEF WE KEEL EACH OTHER OFF! WE PLAY AGAIN, NO?

4466R

I HAD ENOUGH! YOU BUZZARDS ARE TOO CROOKED EVEN FOR *ME!*

REWARD HARRY 'HACK' HAYES

-$6000-

HAVE A DRINK, PILGRIM! YUH SURE STRAYED INTO THE WRONG STALL! ON THE RUN FROM THE LAW?

I AIN'T SAYIN'! WHO OWNS THIS JOINT?

OUTLAWS OF THE WEST

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WE DO! THE FELLER THAT OWNED THE SHACK IS BURIED IN THE BACK YARD!

SI! I CAUGHT HEEM WITH ZEE LAWMAN ONE DAY! WHO ARE YOU?

THE STRANGER WAS NO COWARD BUT HIS MOUTH WENT DRY AND WORDS WOULDN'T COME!

I SEEN 'IM IN BANKTON, ORTEGA ... A CHEAP CROOK! BUT HE'S ON OUR SIDE OF THE LAW!

LET'S SIT DOWN, STRANGER! I'LL EVEN LET YOU BUY ME A DRINK!

OKAY BUD, WHAT'S YORE GAME? I **KNOW** YORE A LAWMAN...I CAN TELL! WHAT KIND? LOCAL? FEDERAL? PINKERTON? YOU AFTER THE REWARD ON MY SHOULDERS?

I...I'M LOCAL! SHERIFF'S DEPUTY! COMIN' HERE WAS MY OWN IDEA! WHAT'LL YUH DO? SHOOT ME... WITHOUT A CHANCE?

**AHA!** HE EES A LAWMAN, EH, HACK? YOU FIND HEEM OUT QUEEK! YOU ONE SMART HOMBRE!

ORTEGA, WANTED FOR A SCORE OF CRIMES HATED ALL LAWMEN... THE OTHERS FELT THE SAME! HACK WATCHED THEM SEARCH THE STRANGER... QUICKLY AND EFFICIENTLY!

LOOK! EES PAPER... SHERIFF'S DEPUTY, EET SAY!

BUENO! WE TAKE CARE OF HEEM NOW! HACK, WE CUT CARDS, NO?

I GOT AN IDEA! LET'S GIVE HIM A **TRIAL** ..YOU MAKE THE SPEECH SAYING WHAT A BAD FELLER HE IS, AN' I SAY WHAT A FINE FELLER HE IS! MEDERA CAN BE THE JUDGE! SLIP MEANY'LL BE THE JURY!

IT WAS A GRIM PARODY OF JUSTICE... MANUEL ORTEGA'S SPEECH WAS SHORT!

YORE EXELENCIO, THEES EES A BAD MAN! HE COME TO KEEL US... WE KEEL HEEM EENSTEAD!

BUENO! EES GOOD SPEECH!

LISTEN, YORE HONOR, I WANT A FAIR TRIAL! SEEMS TO ME LIKE YORE ROOTIN' FOR ORTEGA! YUH STILL GOTTA HEAR MY SPEECH!

FIRST, LET'S GIVE THE JURY A LITTLE DRINK, SO'S HE WON'T GO DRY!

THE GRINNING OWLHOOTER WITH THE $6,000 REWARD RIDING ON HIM TALKED ..... FOR FIFTEEN MINUTES!

...AN' THAT'S MY SPEECH, YORE HONOR! IT'S UP TO THE JURY NOW!

YOU TALK TOO MUCH! SLIP WENT TO SLEEP! WE SHOOT DEPUTY NOW?

NAH! WAIT'LL HE WAKES UP TUH MAKE IT OFFICIAL! LET'S FINISH OUR CARD GAME!

YOU BUZZARD! YO'RE WORSE THAN THEY ARE! YOU ENJOY DRAGGIN THIS OUT?

LISTEN... DON'T COMPLAIN! YOU'D BE IN BOOT HILL NOW IF I DIDN'T THINK OF HAVIN' THE TRIAL! SO **SHUT UP!**

THE GAME WENT ON... BUT ORTEGA AND MEDERA GREW NERVOUS!

SLIP MEANY SLEEPS LIKE HE TAKE ZEE PILL! LET US FINISH THE ONE CALLED DEPUTY **NOW!**

HOLD ON! I SAY WE DO IT RIGHT... UNLESS YUH WANT TUH ARGUE THE POINT!

NO MAN FRIGHTENS MEDERA WITH ZEE BLUFF!

WHY NOT TRY CALLIN' IT, THEN!

YOU NEVER WERE MUCH GOOD AT CARDS... OR **GUNS!**

BANG!



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

PUT AWAY ZEE GUN, HACK...I HAVE NO QUARREL WEETH YOU!

BUT I HAVE WITH **YOU**... IN THE FORM OF A RANGER'S WARRANT IN THE HEEL OF MY BOOT! YO'RE UNDER ARREST, ORTEGA! YOU AN' THE OTHERS!

SLIP MEANY, THE DROUSY JURIST, CAME AWAKE THEN... WITH A COLT IN HIS HAND!

GOOD THING I WAITED AND HEARD YUH, RANGER!

THIS TIME YUH DON'T TALK US INTO A TRIAL... AN' I DON'T GET A SLEEPING... ***HEY!***

CRACK!

LATER

YOU HAD ME FOOLED, HAYES! THAT WANTED POSTER MADE ME SURE YOU WERE ONE OF THEM!

I HAD THEM MADE SPECIAL JUST TUH SHOW THEM! IT WORKED OKAY! THEY MADE ME ONE OF THEIR GANG!

I HAD THEM ALL... I JUST NEEDED SOME HELP TUH HERD THEM IN TUH TOWN! I AIMED TUH LET YOU LEND A HAND BUT ORTEGA GOT WISE! AFTER THAT, I USED THE FAKE TRIAL AN' A SLEEPING PILL TUH BUY SOME TIME! LET'S RIDE!

END

IN ALL THE VAST AREA OF ARIZONA THERE WAS ONE GROUP OF MEN WHO STOOD FOR LAW AND ORDER... THE ARIZONA RANGERS. A MERE HANDFUL OF MEN, TO POLICE AN ENTIRE STATE! BUT PICKED MEN, AS ROGER CLINT LYLE PROVED WHEN HE RODE INTO...

# OUTLAW TOWN

WE'VE GOT TO STOP THIS LAWLESSNESS OR EVERY DECENT FAMILY WILL MOVE OUT OF HOBTOWN!
STOP IT? HOW? THEY'VE TAKEN OVER! IT'S AN OUTLAW TOWN NOW!

ONLY ONE PLACE WE CAN GET HELP... THE RANGERS! AB, SPREAD THE WORD... A MEETIN' OF EVERY RESPONSIBLE MAN IN TOWN TONIGHT, AT THE GENERAL STORE!

THAT NIGHT A CITIZENS COMMITTEE MET...

ALL RIGHT THEN! CORBY, STANTON AN' BURR LASSITER WILL RIDE TO THE RANGERS AN' ASK FOR HELP TO CLEAN UP THIS TOWN FOR THE DECENT FOLK!

TWO DAYS LATER THE CITIZENS WERE AT THE RANGER STATION!

YES, I'LL SEND A MAN OUT TO HOBTOWN RIGHT AWAY!

ONE MAN? THOSE OUTLAWS'LL EAT ONE MAN ALIVE!

WE ONLY SEND ONE MAN FOR EACH JOB NO MATTER HOW TOUGH! THERE ARE ONLY A FEW OF US TO COVER THIS WHOLE TERRITORY! GOOD-BYE, GENTLEMEN!

SEND IN LYLE!

ONE MAN AIN'T GONNA DO NO GOOD! EVEN A RANGER'S GOT ONLY TWO HANDS AN' EYES!

HMM! FORGOT MY CIGAR CASE! I'LL GET IT... BE WITH YOU IN A MINUTE!

HURRY UP! WE GOT A LONG RIDE BACK!

CLINT, HOB-TOWN NEEDS...

SORRY TO INTERRUPT, CAP'N! I FORGOT MY CIGAR CASE!

THREE DAYS LATER RANGER CLINT LYLE RODE INTO HOBTOWN, DISGUISED AS A TOUGH DRIFTER!

HE HUNG AROUND THE SALOONS AND GAMBLING JOINTS...

BUT IN THE EARLY MORNING HOURS, WHEN OTHERS SLEPT, HE WAS BUSY!

GOT ALL I NEED TO KNOW NOW! IF I CAN GET INSIDE THE GANG THAT RUNS HOB-TOWN I CAN BUST IT WIDE OPEN! I'LL MAKE MY PLAY COME MORNIN'...

...AT ACE BROCK'S SALOON! TOAD FRICK'S THE TOP OUT-LAW.. AN' BROCK'S RIGHT HAND MAN! I'LL START FROM THERE AN' DO IT FAST, ROUGH AN' TOUGH!

THERE'S ACE... AN' THERE'S TOAD AT THE BAR... AN' HERE WE GO!

HEY, QUIT CROWDIN'! YOU LOOKIN' FOR TROUBLE?

I AIN'T LOOKIN' FOR TROUBLE... I GOT IT! RIGHT HERE ON MY HIP... FOR ANYBODY WHO WANTS IT!

LIKE THIS!

YOU AIN'T FAST ENOUGH WHEN TROUBLE COMES, MISTER!

THAT'S ENOUGH... NO SHOOTIN' IN MY PLACE! MISTER, YOU JUST OUT-DREW MY TOP GUN! I COULD USE A MAN LIKE YOU!

I COULD USE SOME EASY WORK WITH HIGH PAY... GUN WORK FOR INSTANCE!

LET'S TALK IN MY OFFICE!

LEAD THE WAY!

NOW, AS I WAS SAYIN'...

YOU SHOULDN'T PULL A SNEAK DRAW BEHIND A MAN'S BACK WHEN HE'S GOT A MIRROR IN FRONT OF HIM, ACE!

WHAT'S GOIN' ON?

HIS GUNS SPOKE AND HE WENT THROUGH THAT MOB OF TOUGHS LIKE A HOT KNIFE THROUGH BUTTER!

THAT GENT'S LIGHTNIN' AN' I AIN'T STAYIN' TO BE STRUCK!

DROP YOUR GUNS... AN' RIDE OUT OF TOWN! I'M ROUNDIN' UP EVERY GUN-SLINGER IN TOWN AN' DRIVIN' HIM OUT! I'M RANGER CLINT LYLE! LAW HAS COME TO HOBTOWN!

WORD SPREAD AND THE TOUGHS LEFT HOBTOWN IN A HURRY!

RANGER, YOU DID A GRAND JOB! WE DIDN'T THINK YOU COULD DO IT, BUT YOU SURE RID HOBTOWN OF ITS OUTLAWS!

ALL EXCEPT ONE, LASSITER!

ACE BROCK WAS WARNED AND TRIED TO GUN ME FROM BEHIND! ONLY ONE MAN HERE KNEW ME. LASSITER... YOU! I'VE GOT PAPERS TO PROVE YOU WERE THEIR LEADER! YOU RAN WITH THE HONEST CITIZENS JUST TO LEARN THEIR PLANS!

NO YOU DON'T! YOU'RE UNDER ARREST, YOU BUZZARD! I'M GIVING HOBTOWN BACK TO THE DECENT FOLKS, AN' YOU AIN'T ONE OF THEM!

End

# TROUBLE'S TWIN

YOUR NAME MARSH? THEY TOLD ME IN TOWN THAT THIS WAS THE MARSH HOMESTEAD!

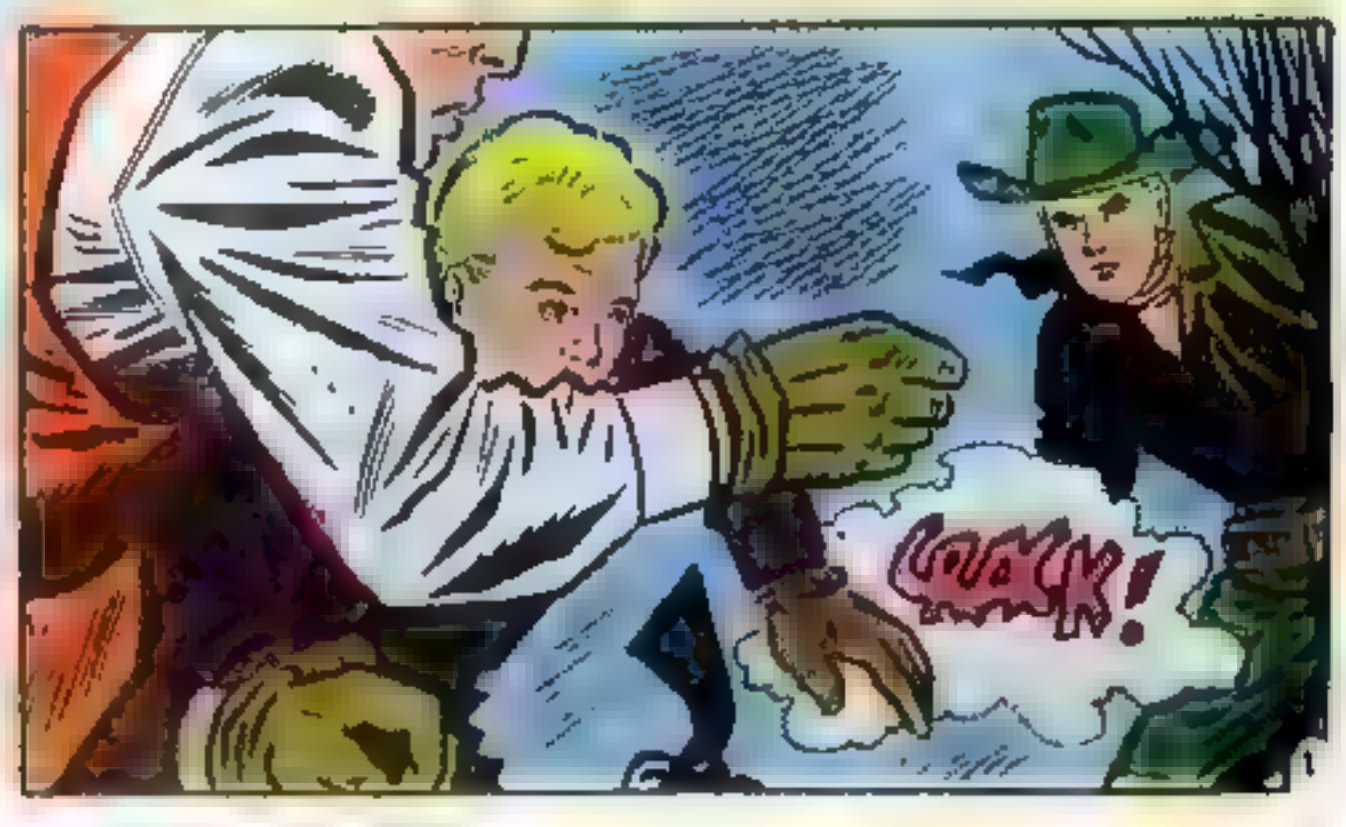
I'M JOHN MARSH, MISTER! SAY YORE BUSINESS! I'M BUSY GETTIN' READY TUH GET MARRIED TOMORROW!

4465RA

THE GAMES UP, JOE! IF YUH BAT AN EYELASH, YUH GET IT! THEY PAY OFF ON YUH DEAD OR ALIVE!

I'M NOT JOE... I'M **JOHN** MARSH! NOW PUT UP YORE GUN!

THE STRANGER'S MISTAKE WAS UNDERSTANDABLE... JOHN AND JOE MARSH WERE IDENTICAL TWINS! THEY LOOKED ALIKE...BUT UNDERNEATH THEY WERE AS DIFFERENT AS NIGHT AND DAY! JOHN MARSH WAS STILL WONDERING WHAT TO DO WHEN HE SAW THE STRANGER'S EYE'S SHIFT TO SOMETHING BEHIND HIM, SAW HIM RE-AIM THE COLT AND...



JOE! HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN HERE?

ABOUT TWO HOURS! YUH SURE WOULDN'T LAST LONG IN THE BADLANDS, JOHN!

I HAVEN'T SEEN YUH IN SIX YEARS ...THEN YUH HIDE LIKE A COYOTE!

THAT BOUNTY HUNTER WAS TRAILIN' ME! I WASN'T TAKIN' CHANCES! GOT ANY GRUB?

JOHN MARSH THREW SOME EGGS AND BACON ON THE FIRE, WAITING TO HEAR HIS TWIN'S STORY!

WHAT ABOUT THAT MAN OUTSIDE? WE NEVER HEARD YUH HAD A PRICE ON YORE HEAD!

HE'L LIVE... I'LL TAKE 'IM TOWARD TOWN LATER! I CALLED MYSELF JOE MASTERS AFTER I LEFT HOME! THAT'S THE NAME ON THE POSTERS... IF YUH AIM TUH TURN ME IN!

I'M GETTIN MARRIED IN THE MORNING, JOE! I DON'T WANT YOU HERE! DAD DIED A MONTH AFTER YUH LEFT...HEART ATTACK DID IT! HE MADE A WILL BEFORE HE DID! THE RANCH IS MINE!

DON'T TALK ROUGH BROTHER ...I COULD ALWAYS WHIP YUH!

WE WERE KIDS THEN, JOE! I'M A... *UNGH!*

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

I'M GONNA TEACH YOU A LESSON, TOUGH GUY!

WH...WHAT'S GOING ON? YOU...YOU'RE JOHNNY'S TWIN./WHAT DO YOU WANT HERE?

THIS IS BETWEEN US, MOLLY! JOE, GET THAT MAN YOU SHOT TO A DOCTOR AN' DON'T COME BACK HERE! GET OUT!

THAT'S BIG TALK! CAN YUH BACK IT UP?

JOHN MARSH DIDN'T WANT TROUBLE..., BUT HE KNEW THERE WAS ONLY ONE WAY TO SETTLE THEIR ARGUMENT!

OH JOHNNY, I'M SO GLAD YOU WEREN'T HURT!

JOE WAS ALWAYS A BULLY! I CAN HANDLE HIM!

TRY HANDLIN' ME NOW, FARMER! JUST TRY! GIS, YUH BETTER GEE IF THAT GUY IN BACK IS STILL ALIVE! IT'LL KEEP YUH BUSY WHILE I TALK TUH YORE BELOVED JOHNNY!

THERE WAS NO BROTHERLY LOVE IN JOE'S EYES...BUT HE HAD A PLAN AND HE COULDN'T USE THE GUN YET!

TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTHES! WE'RE GONNA SWAP OUTFITS!

WHAT GOOD WILL THIS DO, JOE ...WHAT'S THE IDEA?

I'LL TELL YOU THE IDEA! ONE OF MY MEN IS MEETING ME HERE WITH ALL THE LOOT I'VE SAVED OVER THE YEARS...AN' I'M GONNA START LIVIN' LIKE A HUMAN BEING AGAIN! BUT I CAN'T DO THAT WITH THE LAW BREATHIN' DOWN MY NECK EVERY STEP OF THE WAY!

THAT'S WHERE YOU COME IN! YOU'RE GONNA BE SHOT RESISTIN' ARREST ...AND THE CASE OF JOE MASTERS WILL BE CLOSED! NOW MOVE! GET OUTSIDE!

AS JOE MARSH SPOKE, A LONE RIDER CAME UP THE TRAIL!

THERE'S THE RANCH, YONDER! WONDER WHY THE BOSS PICKED THIS SPOT TO MEET?

SOMETHIN'S WRONG! SOMEBODY'S GOT THE DROP ON 'IM! I CAN GET 'IM FROM BEHIND!

DUCK BOSS! I'LL GET 'IM!

PECOS! NO! IT'S...

BAM!

BAM!

THE WARNING CAME LATE...AND JOE MARSH FELL WOUNDED TO THE GROUND! JOHN MARSH MADE HIS MOVE AS THE AMAZED GUNMAN TRIED TO FIGURE OUT THE TURN OF EVENTS!

KEEP YORE HANDS WHERE I CAN SEE THEM, HOMBRE!

BAM!

CRACK!

THOSE SHOTS! I... YO... YOU'RE JOHN! OH, JOHN!

IT'S ALL OVER, MOLLY! ALL OVER!

THE SHERIFF'S POSSE SHOWED UP TWENTY MINUTES LATER!

I HATE TUH TURN IN MY OWN BROTHER, SHERIFF! BUT I HAVE NO CHOICE!

I KNOW, JOHN! AND I KNOW YOU WON'T TAKE THE REWARD MONEY, BUT I'LL SEE THAT IT'S DEPOSITED TO MOLLY'S CREDIT IN THE BANK IN TOWN! YOU CAN DO WHAT YOU WANT WITH IT, LATER!

END

IF HE RIDES AWAY NOW, I'M THRU! BUT HE WON'T— SICKLES WILL WAIT— HE WANTS TO SEE ME SUFFER— HE WANTS TO SEE ME DIE!

IT WAS THE END OF THE TRAIL FOR ONE OF THEM— A THOUSAND MILE TRAIL THAT BEGAN IN IDAHO AND ZIGZAGGED DOWN INTO TEXAS, UP INTO OKLAHOMA— THEN AT LAST, INTO THE DESERT! BILLY SICKLES HAD A PRICE ON HIS HEAD— FRANK CALLIN DIDN'T CARE ABOUT THAT! HE WANTED HIM TO STAND TRIAL!

# RIDE INTO AMBUSH!

YOU'RE UNDER ARREST, SICKLES! DROP YOUR GUN!

WELL, WELL! YUH MAKE ME LAUGH, CALLIN! YUH WON'T SHOOT ME— YUH WANT ME ALIVE! I'M GONNA SHOOT YOU IN A MINUTE— THEN YOU'LL BE OFF MY BACK FOR GOOD!

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YOU GOT AWAY WITH A LOT, SICKLES— BUT ROBBING TH' GOVERNMENT MAIL WAS A FEDERAL OFFENSE! YOU'RE MY PRISONER!

NO DUDE FEDERAL MARSHAL'S TAKIN' ME BACK! I GOT AWAY FROM LAWMEN BEFORE!

CALLIN KNEW SICKLES' RECORD... HIS FIRST MAJOR CRIME HAD BEEN A DARING DAYLIGHT ROBBERY IN KANSAS, ALONE!

BANK

KRAKK

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

SICKLES ALWAYS WORKED ALONE— AND HE ROAMED ALL OVER THE WEST! HE TOOK A MINE PAYROLL IN COLORADO NEXT...

WHEN HE ROBBED THE MAIL, HE DIDN'T NEED THE MONEY— NOR DID HE GET ANY! IT WAS A STUPID VICIOUS CRIME...

HOLD IT! I NEED A RIDE!

WHOA, BOYS! WHAT DID YOU SAY, MISTER? I'M IN A HURRY— CARRYIN' THE MAIL!

YEAH? GOOD— I'LL CARRY IT FOR YUH NOW!

KRAKK

I'LL GO THRU THE LETTERS LATER— MIGHT BE SOME KICKS IN READIN' OTHER FOLKS' MAIL! IT WAS GETTIN' SORTA DULL ANYHOW!

SICKLES FORGOT IT EVER HAPPENED— BUT FRANK CALLIN, U.S. DEPUTY MARSHAL WAS ASSIGNED TO THE CASE...

...AND HE SHOT ME WITHOUT SAYIN' A WORD MORE! WATCH 'IM WHEN YUH CATCH 'IM, MISTER CALLIN! HE'S ALL BAD!

YES—BILLY SICKLES IS THE MOST DANGEROUS MAN IN THE COUNTRY NOW!

I'LL FIND HIM, JIM! HE'LL STAND TRIAL!

CALLIN SENT OUT TELEGRAMS TO SHERIFFS IN FIVE STATES... HE GOT THE ANSWER HE WANTED FROM A SHERIFF IN OKLAHOMA!

SICKLES COVERS A LOT OF TERRITORY! I'VE BEEN CHASING HIM A MONTH WITHOUT SEEING HIM!

MY NAME IS FRANK CALLIN, U.S. MARSHAL'S OFFICE! I WIRED A REQUEST ABOUT BILLY SICKLES! IS HE STILL IN TOWN?

SICKLES? YEAH, HE'S AROUND SOMEWHERE! HE AIN'T DONE NOTHIN' WRONG HERE—SEEMS LIKE A REG'LAR FELLA!

KANS

HE'LL TAKE A ROOM— THERE WON'T BE NO WITNESSES TUH WHAT HAPPENS UPSTAIRS IN THE HOTEL!

HOTEL

YESSIR, TAKE ROOM 204 —RIGHT UP THE STAIRS! MR. SICKLES IS IN 205 ACROSS THE HALL FROM YUH!

BILLY SICKLES GAVE NO WARNING— HIS COLT SWUNG TO COVER CALLIN AND HE PULLED THE TRIGGER!

KRAAK

NO, YOU DON'T!

ZING

ZING

YOU'RE UNDER ARREST, SICKLES!

HAH! I'LL SEE YUH AGAIN, LAWMAN— NEXT TIME YUH WON'T BE LUCKY!

THAT WAS A LONG, WEARYING CHASE— SICKLES WAS TRICKY AND AN EXPERT IN THE ART OF BUSHWHACKING...

SICKLES KEPT RUNNING, TRYING AN AMBUSH FROM TIME TO TIME...

HE'S HEADING FOR THE DESERT— IF I *DON'T* GET HIM I'M THRU!

WATER! A WATER HOLE!

CALLIN STALKED HIS MAN... BUT SICKLES WASN'T RUNNING! HE SAT AT THE SPRING AND WAITED...

SICKLES, I'M THRU PLAYING GAMES! ... ONE WRONG MOVE AND I'LL PUT A ROPE ON YOU AND DRAG YOU BACK!

WHAT? YUH WOULDN'T DO IT, CALLIN! YUH'RE TOO... *WAIT!*

THAT'S IT, SICKLES! GET OVER THERE— LIE FACE DOWN ON THE ROCK! PUT YOUR HANDS BEHIND YOUR BACK!

BILLY SICKLES WALKED OUT OF THE DESERT... CALLIN, THE TENDERFOOT MARSHAL, RODE!

IT WON'T BE LONG NOW, SICKLES! I'LL TURN YOU OVER TO THE SHERIFF AND TAKE MY RECEIPT! THAT'LL END IT FOR ME!

AWWW! SHUT UP!

THE END

THE RANGERS HAD A PROBLEM WHEN HAPPY JACK DAHL CAME BACK TO TEXAS! HE WAS WANTED FOR EVERYTHING FROM BANKROBBING TO ROBBING THE POOR BOX... BUT PEOPLE LIKED HIS SWEET SMILE AND HIS FRIENDLY MANNER! AND THE ONES WHO LIKED HAPPY JACK **DIDN'T** COTTON TO RANGER BUFF BECK!

# HAPPY JACK

LET THE POOR BOY ALONE, BECK!

THE POOR BOY, AS YOU CALL HIM, IS A SIDEWINDER! HE'S SCHEMIN' SOME WAY RIGHT NOW TUH PUT A BULLET IN ME! STAND STILL, DAHL! YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!

Beer!

RANGER BUFF BECK DIDN'T LIKE THE JOB OF GOING AFTER HAPPY JACK DAHL! HE WAS SENSITIVE ABOUT HIS LOOKS AND..

LOOK, CAPT'N, MAMAS USE ME TUH THREATEN THEIR KIDS WITH RIGHT NOW! THEY TELL 'EM BUFF BECK'LL GET 'EM IF THEY DON'T BEHAVE!

IF I GO AN' ROUGH UP HAPPY JACK WHEN I CATCH 'IM, THEY'LL THINK I'M EVEN WORSE!

YOU'RE NOT SO UGLY, BUFF! GO GET DAHL ... AND WATCH IT! HE'S MUY MALO... A VERY BAD RANNY!

HAPPY JACKS FACE WAS KNOWN IN WEST TEXAS....HIS PICTURE WAS WELL CIRCULATED BY THE RANGERS! BUT NO ONE WANTED TO TALK

HE'S IN THIS SECTION RIGHT NOW! YUH MUST'VE SEEN 'IM, MISTER!

NOPE! I NEVER SAW HAPPY JACK DAHL IN MY LIFE!

BUT WHEN I DO, I'LL GET ALONG WITH HIM BETTER THAN I DO YOU!

LOOK MISTER, HE'S AN OUTLAW! HE'D SHOOT YOU FOR A TWO-BIT PIECE! HE'S NO GOOD!

HE LOOKS LIKE A NICE BOY TO ME, MISTER! AT LEAST, HE DOESN'T SCARE A BODY SCOWLIN' LIKE YOU DO!

OKAY, OKAY! I'LL FIND HIM MYSELF!

HAPPY JACK DAHL WASN'T FAR AWAY. HE WAS FLASHING HIS SMILE, ENJOYING AN HONEST MAN'S HOSPITALITY!

I DIDN'T DO ALL THE BAD THINGS THE RANGERS SAID I DID! THEY ACCUSE ME OF EVERY CRIME THEY CAN'T SOLVE!

I HEARD FOLKS SAY THAT, JACK!

THANKS FOR THE MEAL, FRIEND! NOW...LET'S HAVE YORE CASH! I'M SHORT O' FUNDS OR I WOULDN'T DO IT!

WHAT? I HELPED YUH, I THOUGHT YUH WERE A NICE KID!

I AM...I HATE TUH HURT ANYBODY, LESS I HAVE TUH! NOW, GIT THE DOUGH...BEFORE I QUIT SMILIN'!

ESS
ME

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

HIS VICTIMS KNEW THE TRUTH ABOUT THE SMILING OUTLAW.... BUT OTHERS DIDN'T BELIEVE THEIR STORIES! BUFF BECK DID!

I ADMIT I WAS WRONG, RANGER! I FED HIM, AN' WHEN HE GOT HIS BELLY FULL HE HELD ME UP!

IT SERVED YUH RIGHT, MISTER! I'LL TRY TUH GET YORE MONEY BACK WHEN I CATCH UP WITH HIM!

THAT HORSE JUST CAME IN... WHO OWNS IT, MISTER?

I AIN'T SAYIN', RANGER ...BUT HE SMILED REAL NICE, IF YUH KNOW WHO I MEAN!

HE HEADED FOR THE FULL HOUSE BAR! I NEVER DID LIKE A MAN WHO SMILED TOO MUCH, RANGER!

HAPPY JACK WAS THERE...MAKING MORE FRIENDS AND FLASHING THAT FRIENDLY SMILE! A DEAD SILENCE FELL AS THE RANGER ENTERED!

YO'RE UNDER ARREST, DAHL! COMIN' PEACEFUL?

YUH'RE AN UGLY CUSS, RANGER! CAN'T YUH SMILE ONCE IN A WHILE?

YUH WANT HELP, JACK, JUS' SING OUT!

I'LL TEND TO YOU IN A MINUTE, MISTER! OR TUH ANYONE ELSE WHO HORNS IN!

BEER

LET'S DO IT OUT ON THE STREET, BECK! WHERE EVERYONE CAN WATCH!

I'M WILLIN'... NO MATTER WHAT YUH DO, I'M TAKIN' YUH IN!

IT WAS A SHOWDOW, TEXAS STYLE! BUSINESS STOPPED WHILE HAPPY JACK FACED BUFF BECK IN THE DUST!

WELL, RANGER, YUH GONNA SHOOT ME DOWN WITHOUT A CHANCE?

DON'T NEEDLE ME, DAHL! I'M DOIN' MY JOB! YOU'RE UP TO SOME TRICK!

I NEVER HURT ANYBODY OUTTA MEANESS, RANGER! EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT!

HE LOOKS SO INNOCENT! HE HAS SUCH A NICE SMILE!

HAPPY JACK WAS STILL SMILING WHEN HE PRODUCED THE DEADLY LITTLE HENRY J. DERRINGER PEPPERBOX AND FIRED!

BANG!

THE RANGER, HURT, DREW WITH HIS OTHER ARM, AND...

H-HOLD IT, BECK, I-I GIVE UP.... DON'T SHOOT!!

THE STORY SPREAD ALL OVER TEXAS! HAPPY JACK'S SMILE COVERED A KILLERS HEART...AND UGLY, SCOWLING BUFF BECK WAS WELL LIKED!

♪ YOU CAN'T FOOL US ANYMORE, MISTUH RANGUH! YOU'RE SWEET! ♪

SEE, BUFF? THEY DON'T HATE YOU ANYMORE

END